THE FREEDMEN AND THEIR HABITATION.

While the Senate had under consideration, on the 28th ultimo, the bill to establish a "Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs," Mr. WILLEY, of West Virginia, moved the following amendment as an additional section

" And be it further enacted. That whenever the said cannot find abandoned real estate on which to employ all of the freedmen who may come under his to emptoy all of the freedmen who may come under his care and control by virtue of this set, it shall be his duty, so hat as usey be practical, to provide for them homes and employment with humane and suitable persons at fair and just compensation for their services; and that in order the more effectually to accomplish this purpose the said commissioner shall open a correspondence with the Governors and the said compensation of the said commissioner shall open a correspondence with the Governors and the said compensation of the said compensation of the said control of the said co various municipal authorities of the different States requesting their co-operation in this behalt."

The mover of the proposition explained its motive and object by representing it as obvious that at this time there are very few plantations, however many of them may be abandened, on which it would be safe or profitable to place and to employ the emancipated blacks. There is no district in the country coming within the scope of this bill where, on taking possession of the real estate now abandoned and placing upon that real estate any given number of these freedmen, it would not be necessary, in Mr. Willey's judgment, also to employ more or less of the military forces to protect them while they are cultivating the farms. And in any case where, for this or for other reasons, the Commissioner of Freedmen could not find the means of employing all the emancipated blacks on the Southern plantations, it was proposed by this amendment that it should be the commissioner's duty to "provide for them homes and employment with humane and suitable persons" in other parts of the country. And to this end the commissioner was to open correspondence with the Governors and the various municipal authorities of the different States requesting their co-operation in

It will be seen that, by the terms of the proposition, the commissioner was not to open correspondence on this subject so long as he could find a place for the emancipated blacks on the Southern plantations. But in cases where there was not room for them to find a subsistence at the South. or where they were in imminent jeopardy of recapture and re-enslavement, it was proposed, as Mr. Willey explained, "to secure them a better home and better wages in a community where they will receive better treatment and be better protected by the laws than they can be upon the abandoned plantations of the South," under the circumstances indicated. In further support of his benevolent proposition Mr. WILLEY said :

"I beg Senators to reflect a moment and ask themselve the question where, at this time, there is a piantation with-in the whole scope of the insurrectionary territory of the United States on which it would be wise or expedient or possible to place any number of these freedmen, and to keep them there for six months? Where is the section or territory in which it can be done? If there be any such I do not know it. Perhaps in the vicinity of our forts and a little distance from them, where they are under the protection and under the eye of the military authorities. that bands of guerrillas seize these men and murder them or carry them off to worse slavery than they have ever endured.

"But here is a proposition that has something practical in it, that has something benevolent in it, that will take these freedmen from the miserable condition in which they are now placed, that will secure them homes where no such danger exists, that will secure them homes where they are not under the arbitrary control of these commissioners and assistant commissioners, but where they are under the protection of the laws and courts, where they midst of a benevolent community who will see that they suffer no wrong, where they are in the reach of our judicial tribunals and the executive officers of the law to protect them in their rights and redress their grievances. All that my amendment proposes is that these freedmen of the Fron States and under the direction and with the approbation of these commissioners, have homes provided for them in those States; more. There is nothing compulsory in it. It is provided that it shall only be done where it is practicable and so far as it is practicable. If the laws of any State prohibit the introduction of free negroes, then it is impracticable and my amendment does not apply. If the people do not want then in any of the Free States then my amend ment does not apply, for it is not practical except by the consent of the parties who wish to employ them.

'I ack Senators, then, whether they are willing to mu tilate the only practical and beneficial provision that there is in the bill under existing circumstances, by striking from it the part of it that would render the remaining por tion utterly nugatory. If we sincerely desire, as I do and as I trust every Senator does, to be good to these freed men, really to provide homes for them, really to do a good act toward them, I beg the Secate not to strike out this provision; for it does seem to me that it is the only practical provision in the whole bill that will operate for their good under existing circumstances If it be the pleasure of the Senate to strike it out and let the bill be without any practical effect, so be it The result, I assure Sepators, will be simply to create a corps of well-paid officers and impose them upon the finances of the country, without any other practical effect than that. I think this is not a time when we can afford the money to do it.

In the face of these representations, so candidly and forcibly urged, Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, argued against the adoption of the latter part of this amendment, not because it was wrong or inexpedient in itself, but because it might place certain Northern Governors in a disagreeable predicament. He said :

"I think if that provision remains in the bril it is liable to be misrepresented throughout the country. Suppose an application is made by these officers to the Governor of some State, and that Governor gives consent or makes any arrangement, then there will be fault-finding, misrepsentation, and denunciation. Suppose he declines to de it; then another class of men will denounce him for it. It seems to me that this opening of a correspondence with the official authorities for the employment of these freedmen will have a tendency to weaken the bill before the country, to weaken the workings of the measure, and to weaken the Government. It is liable to merepresentation throughout the country, and therefore I hope it will not remain in the bill in that form."

Mr. WILSON was inspired to make these remarks, we presume, by a lively recollection of the embarrassment under which Gov. Andrew, of Massachusetts, was laid in the year 1862, when, having been carnestly requested by Gen. Dix, while that officer was in command at Fortress Monroe, to furnish an asylum to some blacks who were in danger of being recaptured and reduced to slavery, he flatly refused to comply with the request, though it was urged by the General, with the assent of the War Department, on grounds of military necessity, as well as of philanthropy.

To the same purport as Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, argued against the amendment as follows :

"I want as little correspondence with States where there are prejudices against them [ the freedmen ] as possible. If this commissioner was to open a correspondence with the Gover-nor of almost any State in the Union proposing to find places for them in that State, although the Governor might be in favor of it, yet there is always a political party to make a fuse about it, and it will become an uppopular thing. do not believe that West Virginia would allow them within her limits. I know that Illinois, Indiana, and most of the Northwestern States would be entirely opposed to it. I do not believe the thing ought to be shadowed, forth in the

Senator Pomeroy, it will be seen, was, like Mr. WILSON, very desirous to avoid "excitement" or inhabitancy of free negroes.

Mr. Conness, of California, followed in the same strain. He said:

"My first objection to it is that we have sufficient excitement, we have sufficient discussion, we have sufficient of the subject of negro slavery and the freedom of negroes, as the matter now stands, without enlarging the area of that excitement and increasing it by attempting a special coverage of the standard of the suppose of the standard of the suppose of the standard of the suppose of the standard of the special correspondence and discussion with the Executives of all the States on the subject. How will it be with the State of Illinois? Can there be an issue made there, where they do not wish free negroes in their State, and the law probable them?

It is very refreshing to find how exceedingly conservative" certain gentlemen become the instant it is proposed to domiciliate free blacks in their States. They are very anxious to have Sambo free-no amount of blood or treasure is exorbitant to purchase such a boon-always provided that he is not to enjoy his "inalienable right to life, lib erty, and the pursuit of happiness" on Northern soil. They want no excitement on this subject The moment it is mentioned their philanthropy is chilled at its fountains, and from "agitators" they sink into the most apathetic of "conservatives." This is a singular thing under the sun. So persistent was Senator WILSON in representing to the Senate the dangers of "excitement" on this topic that he returned to it again and again. At the close of the debate on the amendment he said:

"Why insert in this bill a provision that the comm sioner shall open a correspondence on this subject with the Governors and municipal authorities of the States? Take many of the States or cities, and suppose he opens a cor-respondence with the authorities. If one set of men have outrol, they will have nothing to do with it, whereas those communities there may be thousands of people who as individuals would be very glad to get this labor and trest these people kindly and educate them. If another set of men be in power they will be afraid to do it, perhaps, on

And finally the Senate, in respect for the tender ensibilities of Governors who might be embarrassed by appeals addressed to their philanthropy in behalf of "emancipated blacks," agreed to strike out this feature of Mr. Willey's amendment, thus leaving the commissioner to understand that if he had more emancipated blacks than he could employ or protect on the Southern plantations he must permit them to starve, to feed on the Treasury of the United States, or to be recaptured by the enemy and reduced again to slavery. In any event there was to be no "excitement" raised on this subject in the Northern States. Such was the declared will of the Senate in passing the bill in this shape. Our readers do not need to be told that it failed to be brought to a vote in the House of Represen-

THE FORCE OF THE ENEMY ON THE WASH-INGTON RAILROAD.

The following communication, sent to us by a citizen of Maryland who resides near Bladensburg, for the purpose of correcting a statement made some days ago by the Washington Chronicle with regard to "a skirmish" alleged to have occurred near that place on Tuesday, is interesting for the confirmation it lends to the greater accuracy of our contemporary's report of the enemy's doings in this quarter as published on Saturday last, and from which it appears that the invaders did little mischief around Bladensburg beyond drinking unlimited glasses of milk."

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer :

GENTLEMEN: In the recent raid of the rebels on the Balamore and Washington road, it is represented in the Chronicle that a skirmish occurred in which they were gallantly repulsed by our troops. It seems to me important that those who speak " by authority" should be correctly informed as to the conduct of those to whom our defence is entrusted, and I rend you this statement because I happened to be near enough to the scene of action to be well informed of they could feel differently under the sense of such

The extreme point of the advance of the rebels was the up of the hill just past the Agricultural College, called Kennedy's hill. The first intimation of their approach was given by the Federal cavalry, who, about one along the turnpike by their swift retreat-reporting that the rebels were coming in great force, burning and destroying all before them, and killing every negro they saw. The consequence was an almost universal stampede of negroes, and great uneasiness and alarm every where. This Federal force numbered, I am told, five hundred and sixty men. They had been charged upon, it is said, by a very small number of rebels in the neighborhood of Beltsville, thirteen miles from Washington; but, believing that the latter were in large force, had deemed it prudent to retire, with some precipi-

The rebels reached Kennedy's bill, four mi'es from Beltsville, about seven e'clock in the evening, four hours after the United States cavalry had passed that point. Their force was variously estimated, by those who saw it pass the road, at five hundred, one thousand, and fifteen hundred. Kennedy's hill is full two miles from Bladensburg, and was the nearest point of the enemy's approach to that piace. It was here that what the Chronicle calls "a skirmish" took place. It consisted to the throwing of three shells from Kennedy's to the hill above Mr. Calvert's ledge gate, one of which struck the post of the gate entering from the turnpike to Mrs. Van Wyck's house at Ellaville, and the others exploded in Mr. Calvert's field. These points are about a mile from Kennedy's hill. The enemy's" repulse" only cost our side a few shots,

with earbines.) The rebels were to doubt perfectly guided, as it is understood there were young men with them who were brought up in the neighborhood. Their design was evidently to join their main force in Montgomery county. To do this without being molested, they fired the guns from Kennedy's hill to make the impression of their presence there, and wheeled immediately back, down that hill, turned off through the College grounds, and made their way to the Montgomery road. That this movement had the desired effect is evident from the fact that our forces remained through the night, and until ten o'clock next day, under the impression that they were camping on the College grounds. They had in fact passed through those grounds full twelve hours before a Pederal scout advanced to inquire after them. This is the history of the 'repulse" the enemy received in the neighborhood of

When it was accertained that the rebels had really gone the major in command of our cavalry advanced, and was ery indignent that the impudent for had escaped him. His scouts, with great energy, rode around among people's houses, frightening very much both wemen and children They arrested a number of citizens, capturing their horses; and the major himself, we learn, lectured severely the whole peighborhood, and threatened them with condign punishment for their treasonable neglect to inform him at his heafquarters (at Bladensburg) of the going away of the enemy. We hardly think this was intentional treason on the part of the people. In their simplicity they supposed that, as they had the first notification of the enemy's approach from his cavalry, his pickets or scouts would have kept the major fully informed as to the enemy's possements; or peach y they felt aggrieved that they had een left by their protectors at Bladensburg to the mercy of a releation for. However this may be, they will in future understand that the major expects them to do their duty, as he positively assured them, in a determined many

LOUISIANA

ner, that he exest to do his.

The Constitutional Convention of Louisiana has com-pleted its labor, and the new Constitution will be submitted to the vote of the people of the State on the first Monday in September. The Ers predicts its adoption by a large vote. The Convention appears to have exercised legislative powers, and to have authorized the expenditure " fuse" in the Free States on the question of the of considerable amounts of money for the purposes of civil government. This has not been usual in similar bodies in Northern States.

## THE LATE HUMILIATION.

We yesterday uttered some words of grave and earnest animadversion on the incapacity of the military administration-an incapacity of which the whole country has just been called to witness an illustration of the most mournful significance. We gave utterance to these words not because they expressed a sentiment common to every American heart which feels a pride in the honor of the country, but because we believed it to be a solemn and imperative duty to lift our voice against the mismanagement which is a standing

danger and a standing reproach to the nation. We are not of those who believe that this city was ever in any peril from the magnitude of the force that recently invaded Maryland. That force is now known to have been contemptibly small, and, after making due allowance for honest ignorance, nothing but the insincerity and misrepresentation which may seek to bolster up official reputations visibly sinking under the load of an intolerable humiliation, will longer undertake to simulate any apprehensions on this ground. But we do believe that the city may have been in danger from the heedlessness of the military administration before the approach of the enemy, and from its shiftlessness after that approach, when, under the pressure of a sudden emergency, it lost, as it did, all presence of mind and all efficiency of conduct. It is quite possible that the few hundred men who held Washington under siege for two days, on Monday and Tuesday last, could, if they had sufficiently presumed on the reigning want of vigilance here, have quietly ridden into the city under cover of the darkness of night before any alarm had been raised, seized the President and his Cabinet, blown up the Capitol, destroyed the publie buildings, and retired as mysteriously (and as unharmed) as they came.

After the specimen we have had of the state of preparation in which the recent approach of these marauders found our military administration, it does not much surprise us that there are still some persons who think that the city has abundant cause to be grateful for its recent escape from capture and destruction by the "invader." A city is endangered as much by the incapacity of those who are charged with its defence as by the number of the enemy which seeks to compass its capture, and on the former score our citizens have certainly had much real cause of alarm. But those who confess such alarm must be aware that its existence constitutes the gravest possible imputation on the implied want of foresight in our military administration, which, as they assume, is so negligent and inefficient that the capital of the nation has really been in danger of capture by a few hundred "raiders" detached in this direction as scouts from an invading expedition numbering, according to the best information, only eight thousand men, all told.

That the feelings we have expressed on this mortifying subject are common to all our fellow-citizens, in office or out of office, does not need substantiation to approve their justice. Writing as we did yesterday under a calm sense of duty as clear as it was strong, we should have written what we did if we had suppored that our voice would find no echo in the land. But we did not do our brave and loyal countrymen the injustice to suppose that a profound national humiliation, the cause of which, if not removed, is as much a source of future danger as of lasting shame to the Republic.

That we did not miscalculate the instinctive sentiments of the American people, even among the most firmly addicted to the political support of the Administration, will be apparent to our readers from the perusal of the following article, which we take from the leading Administration paper in New England, (the Boston Daily Advertiser,) written on Wednesday last, before it knew any thing more of the facts in the case than that the military administration in this city had again, as on some former eccasions, suffered itself to fall a prev to its own want of vigilance and capacity. It will be seen that the language it employs is identical with ours as well in the object as in the grounds of its censure; and if such is the language which our Republican contemporary deemed it proper to hold on Wednesday morning last, under the state of facts known to it at the date of its writing, we may easily conceive what added weight it would have given to its well-pointed condemnation had it been apprized of the full extent of the ignorance and un reparedness on which it animadverts.

The article to which we refer (so far as it relates to the conduct of the military administration) is as follows:

"The annual invasion of Maryland, which, next to the weather, supplies the 'sensation' of this week, does not excite any very disturbing apprehensions for the safety of Baltimore and Washington. The country has learned to reserve a degree of equanimity, strangely unlike its exitement when Jackson came down the Shenandoah Valley two years ago and more. The fear of receiving any heavy low from these irruptions has been removed by repeated escapes; there is a general feeling that the business will end as other raids have ended, and that the chef p int to be looked after is to intercept the retreat, if pos-ible And thus it happens that the leading emotion which this incursion excites is one of mortification. The country is ashamed that at this stage of the war we should have a rebel force beating back a Union General on this side of the Potomac-rebel marauders burning houses, stealing horses, and carrying off supplies until a panic is raised which extends to the very capital of Pennsylvania; and, worse perhaps than all so far as moral effect goes, rebel eavalry destroying bridges and cutting telegraph wires on that great arterial line of railway which connects Washingtoy with these States. For the occurrence of this mor-tifying state of affairs we must certainly hold the military

dministration in some degree responsible. " For the occurrence of this mortifying state of affairs we must certainly hold the military administration in some degree responsible. Experience has shown that the Shenandoah valley requires on our side a commander of superior military qualities—an officer who is vigilant and wary, quick to givine the intentions and to appreciate the strength of any rebel force which presents teelf, swift to set, skilful in marcenvering, and, in short, qual fied for the most arduous duties of observation. We have not been more fortunate this year, however, than in previous seasons in the selection of officers for that responable place; nor have the officers selected been more fortu-nate than their predecessors, as witness Sigel's defeat and the retreat of Hunter to the West, which uncovered the valley and invited a counter attack by the rebels. Beyond the immediate command of the valley, however, we have to note as a most unfavorable circumstance the minute division of the field of operations between several epartments, and the necessary lack of concerted action as well as the inferior military capacity of some of the as military arrangements on the part of the General Go-veryment are concerned, the provision against a contin-gency of this sort was unquestionably inadequate."

STEAMBOAT BURNED.—The large and magnificent floating palace, known as the John F. Potter, of the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, was destroyed by fire on the 11th instant while lying at pier No. 1, North river. New York city. The loss is estimated at \$250,000. She was heavily laden with freight at the time the fire

## OFFICIAL.

By the President of the United States of America. A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, by the act approved July 4, 1864 entitled "An act further to regulate and provide for the enrolling and calling out the national forces and for other purposes," it is provided that the President of the United States may, "at his discretion, at any time hereafter, call for any number of men, as volunteers, for the respective terms of one, two, and three years, for military service," and "that in case the quota, or any part thereof, of any town, township, or ward of a city, precinct, or election district, or of a county not so subdivided, shall not be filled within the space of fifty days after such call, then the President shall instantly order a draft for one year to fill such quota or any part thereof, which may be unfilled ;"

And whereas the new enrolment heretofore ordered is so far completed as that the aforementioned act of Congress may now be put in operation, for recruiting and keeping up the strength of the armies in the field, for garrisons, and such military operations as may be required for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion and restoring the authority of the United States Government in the insurgent States :

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, Presi dent of the United States, do issue this my call for five hundred thousand volunteers for the military service; provided, nevertheless, that this call shall be reduced by all credits which may be established under section eight of the aforesaid act, on account of persons who have entered the naval service during he present rebellion, and by credits for men furnished to the military service in excess of calls heretofore made.

Volunteers will be accepted under this call for one, two, or three years, as they may elect, and will be entitled to the bounty provided by the law for the period of service for which they enlist.

And I hereby proclaim, order, and direct that immediately after the fifth day of September, 1864, being fifty days from the date of this call, a draft for troops to serve for one year shall be had in every town, township, ward of a city, precinct, or election district, or county not so subdivided, to fill the quota which shall be assigned to it under this call, or any part thereof which may be unfilled by volunteers on the said fifth day of September,

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this eighteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand bight s. 1 hundred and sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By the President :

WILLIAM H. SEWARD. Secretary of State.

SUPERINTENDENT OF WEST POINT ACADEMY. The Northern journals announce that " Brig. Gen ZEAL ous B. Tower, a regular army officer, who was badly wounded at Bull Run and has not since been in active service, has been appointed to the Superintendency of West

Point, in place of Col. A. H. BOWMAN, U. S. Engineers,

This appoundement reminds us of a report of the removal of Col. BOWMAN which obtained publicity two or three weeks ago, but which our incredulity at the moment led us to withhold from our readers; and the circumstance had been almost forgotten in the whirl of events attendan upon the military campaigns now in progress, and the recent hostile demonstration upon our own immediate borders, when it was brought to our recollection by the para-

from the Cincinnati Commercial (a Republican journal) of the 9th instant, as disclosing the cause assigned for this change in the commandant at the Military Academy. Col. Bowman is a veteran officer of the Regular Army, which he entered in 1825.

From the Cincinnati Commercial of July 9th

It will be remembered that the Association organized for the purpose of erecting a Battle Monument at West Point, to the memory of those of the Regular Army who have fallen in the battles of this war, invited Gen. McClellan to

deliver the dedicatory address.

The invitation was accepted and the oration delivered That portion of the oration relating to the causes of the var and the necessity of its prosecution we have already published. It was significant in view of the possible non nation of Gen. McClellan at Chicago. It was a definition of his views so antagonistic to those of the Peace Democracy, that none of them have since had a word to say in favor of the General. There was nothing in the oration of personal, hardly of a political character. There were no e flections upon the Administration, upon the conduct of the war-in short, not a word that could give offence at the War Office, or to any fair minded, loyal man.

Soon after the delivery of the address the Boston Courier

briefly stated that Lieut, Col. Bowman, in command at West Point, had been removed by the Secretary of War because he had permitted Gen. McClellan to deliver the oration. So utterly absurd did this appear, that it was universally regarded as a strike of partisan malice, an effort to create sympathy for the deposed General by holding him up to the public in the light of an individual so obnoxious to the War Department that it followed him in his retirement to plague him with a petty display of power. But the New York World repeated the assertion in direct and positive language, and the New York Herald reiterated it with additional particulars.

There seems to be no doubt that. Lt. Col. Bowman had been removed, the Secretary of War, with his usual in felicity, choosing a time for doing it that gave color to the one of the Boston Courier and the New York jourassertions of the Boston Courier and the New York omandant at West Point has been removed. We have only a one sided statement of the reasons for it, and those easons are so insufficient, so utterly unjustifiable, that we cannot bring ourselves to the conclusion that they formed the real ground of the removal. Even had Lieut. Col. Bowman been active in securing the rhetorical services of Gen. McClellan on this occasion, nay, had it been chiefly or entirely through his personal influence that the invitation was extended to the General, the country would not have sustained the War Office in removing the command-ant for any such course. But it does not appear that Licut. Col. Bowman took any part in the matter. to have been an act of the association, of which, possibly he may be a member. The association was governed in its action by the propriety of inviting one of the oldest and most distinguished members of the regular army to pronounce the culogy upon his fallen comrades and dedicate the monument erected to their memory. There was nothing partisan in their action, and, had there been, it called for no reproof from the War Office; and, least of all, re-proof administered by d'sgracing an officer who had no hand in the matter.

The Secretary of War should be assured that the only party likely to be damaged by this petty act—if the cause assigned turns out to be true—is himself. Neither Gen. Mc-Clellan nor Lieut. Col. Bowman will suffer in the estimation of the American people by such a procedure. If the Secretary of War has read history to any purpose he will find that it has been the almost unvarying result of such acts to give the authority to set up and pull down into the hands of those against whom efficial power is so unreasonably

FAILURE OF THE BANK LOAN. We mentioned yesterday that the negotiations between

the Secretary of the Treasury and the associated Banks of New York city for a loan of \$50,000,000 had failed. The Banks were willing to make the loan, but, not being able to pay in "greenbacks," desired to be made depositories of the public funds to retain the loan until called for by Government, and then to pay in certified checks. These terms were deemed inadmissible under the laws regulating the operations of the Treasury. It is intimated that the Secretary will in a few days make an appeal to the

SPIRIT OF THE REPUBLICAN PRESS.

In order that our readers may be informed of the impression produced at the North by the recent invasion of Maryland we cite a few extracts from our contemporaries, restricting our selections to the Republican press. The tone of the Opposition prints may be easily inferred when it is seen that journals most addicted to the support of the Administration have nothing to say in extenuation or defence of the military heedlessness which has just been set in so clear a light before the country.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser The annual invasion of Maryland, which, next to the weather, supplies the 'sensation' of this week, does not exote any very disturbing apprehensions tor the safety of Baltimore and Washington. The country has learned to preserve a degree of equanimity, strangely unlike its ex-citement when Jackson came down the Shenandoah Valley two years ago and more. The fear of receiving any heav-blow from these irruptions has been removed by repeated ercapes; there is a general feeling that the business will end as other raids have ended, and that the chi-f point to be looked after is to intercept the retreat, if possible. And thus it happens that the leading emotion which this shamed that at this stage of the war we should have a ebel force beating back a Union General on this side of the Potomac-rebel marauders burning houses, stealing horses, and carrying off supplies until a panic is raise which extends to the very capital of Pennsylvania; and, worse perhaps than all so far as moral effect goes, rebel cavalry destroying bridges and cutting telegraph wires on that great arterial line of railway which connects Washington with these States. For the occurrence of this mo tifying state of affairs we must certainly hold the military dministration in some degree responsible

From the Boston Journal.

Sigel should never have been appointed to a command s important as that of the Senandoah valley, and he prob-ably would not have been but for the troublesome "German lement," which refuses to be conciliated, and will run for Fremont as it "fights mit Sige!" The temporary reputa-tion which this General acquired in Missouri by the industrious puffing of German presses has been completely eclipsed by blundering and incompetency, which has at insted in the disorderly retreat down the Shenan doah valley, without so much as exchanging a shot with the advancing rebels or ascertaining their force and inten-tions. Had a fighting General been in command in the doah valley that pathway into the loyal States would have been a more rugged one to the rebels, and had the General in command been a man of brains the Administration would have been better informed of the extent of the present raid, and beter prepared to meet it.

## From the Providence Journal.

The raid is ended. The alarmed multitude can again breathe freely. The visions of hosts, more numerous than that of Xeraes, crossing the Potomac into Maryland, have uddenly melt d away, and our panic stricken friends rub their eyes with astonishment and wonder whither the un-counted thousands have fled so rapidly. Though, according to reports, the rebels were so many that it took them several days to get over the Potomac, using all the fords from Sharpsburg to Edwards's Ferry, they have contrived to get back in a single day without much trouble. How fearfully they must have been reduced by the raid! Instead of capturing Baltimore and Washington and Philastead of capturing Battimore and translation and delphia, all except a small band of cavalry turned south before they got within sight of Baltimore and simply approached one of the outer works in the line of works preached one of the outer works in the line of bout the capital.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser

It is not yet possible to form a fair and instructive estimate of the character and consequences of the invasion which has just thrown the country into confusion and the capital into convulsions. That it has revealed in the most lamentable light the recklessness and absence of adequate orethought, with which our military affairs ere still adninistered, after four years' experience, is painfully plein the national reputation, and upon the gradually developing confidence of foreign nations in the ultimate success of our efforts to maintain and make triumphant the national cause. But for a useful appreciation of its direct military imporance we must await further developments

From the New York Times.

It is discreditable enough to us that we should have allowed ourselves to be surprised by it—that we should have allowed it to take place—that we should have per mitted the rebels to cross the Potomac and roam and ravage in Maryland for ten days, menacing the National Capital and cutting off all railroad communication between it and the rest of the country—but to permit them to get away in safety, and march a hundred miles with their pooty and prisoners, would be shameful.

From the New York Times

The rebels, if we may judge by the late Richmond papers in our possession, seem to have been about as much astonished at the raid, when they heard of it, as the people of the North were when it occurred. They are, of course, hilarious over it, and over the panic it caused on the border. But they evidently knew little or nothing about it beforehand, which, we think, is a proof that the force engaged in it was not very enormous, and perhaps also, that the whole thing was undertaken on the spur of the moment, when Ewell found that Gen. Hunter had retired from Lynchburg. Of course, both Gens. Lee and Ewell would have liked to take Washington, even though they could have held it but a day; but we do not believe the invading party left Richmond with any such prospect.

From the New York Evening Post

The rebels appear to have run away from Washington as soon as they were attacked. So long, however, as they could keep our garrison upon the defensive, and produce an impression that they had a large force to contend with, so long the rebel troopers kept up what appeared to lookrs on a desperate and dangerous attack upon Washington If the reports printed this morning are correct, a single charge sufficed to prick the bubble of a rebel besieging

From the New York Tribune

It is hardly to be supposed that an attack on Washing ton was seriously contemplated by such a force as lently appeared within reach of its guns. Lee took the great risk which the far reaching combinations of his adversary imposed upon him, and if he escape from his predicament without serious loss it will be because the purposes of Gen. Grant found but a halting and timid support and because his plans were imperfectly executed by those on whom the duty of obeying orders, or of following out his purposes, properly fell. It will be, in a word, because the same nilitary incapacity which once before had left open the Shenandoah now failed to close and bar that door either before or after the steeds had been stolen. A collateral result of these manifeld blunders is that the rebels are to harvest the abundant crops of the valley, which might have, and ought to have, gone into loyal granaries.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. When we first heard of the party of niders that destroyed the trains on the Baltimore and Phi. celphis railroad. they were represented as sweeping across the country, "twelve hundred strong." This was the news from "twelve hundred strong." This was the news from Cockeysville, after they had broken the Northern Centra road near that place. It now turns out that they were but one hundred and fifty men, all to d. Yet this insignificant force made a circuit of the city of Baltimore, even riding up within sight of the fort guarding the northeastern ap proaches to the city, and burning the residence of the Gov ernor of the State not more than four miles away. Such a fact is humiliating to the last degree.

From the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

Talk as we may about the recent invasion of the rebels nd about their being driven back into Virginia, it was for them a great success. They destroyed and carried of millions of dollars worth of property; they made requisitions upon numerous towns in Maryland; they interrupted communication with the National Capital; they compelled the withdrawal of troops from important points to defend Baltimore and Washington, and they escaped with their booty into Virginia, our forces making scarcely a show of pursuit. All this is humilisting enough. It shows that there is folly or incompetence somewhere in our military administration, and the President ought to be able to find

From the Philadelphia North American. In point of fact the rebei army never went near Balti-more, having marched from Monocacy at aight to Rock-

made by detached cavalry bands, the weakness of which mated Gilmore's party, which destroyed the railroad bridges and did other damage north of Baltimore, at a brigade of cavairy, from the best information we could obtain. It seems that after all Gilmore had only one hundred and twenty seven men. Instead of having fifteen thousand cavairy, Early had but fifteen hundred, as our pursuing forces have now ascertained. It is somewhat mortifying to be compelled to admit that so small a detachment as this of Early's should have been able to march with impunity wherever it chose, to plunder Maryland, threaten its commercial metropolis, and even attack the National Capital, and yet escape safely into Virginia. This is the third year in which the rebels have invaded Maryland with success. In the two previous efforts we had to move the whole Army of the Potomac against them before they could be dislodged, but then they suffered in

each case a terrible defeat. Now, however, they have given us a defeat and retreated safely

From the Chicago Tribune

A correspondent writes to us that "the whole country will rejoice that Washington is safe." So far as we are concerned—and we speak not only for the Tribune, but some other people—we beg to be thought not disposed to let off any rockets or to give way to any special hilarity on that account. We do not intend to cherich any unpatri-otic feeling, so as to be thought carele s of the dichonor the sation would suffer by the loss of its capital and the scattering of its Government, but we do confess to a temptation to great indifference as to that city called Washington. " " Wedo feel, bowever, a very poignant grief as to the pigs, turkeys, hens, horses, cows, steers, shoes, and gro-corice the rebels have run out of Maryland. It outs us to the heart that the rasen's should have gotten such booty in their raid. Whatever be our sympathy for those who have lost these things, it is a matter of profound sorrow that Lee's army will taste beef and pork once more, his cavalry will get new horses, and the Richmondites will have a new ease of life for two months more. Over that we grieve

From the Cincinnati Gazette.

We suppose the intelligent public is by this time able to estimate the performance of the various troops in the Val-ley of Virginia, and on the Upper Po omac, by what could have reasonably been of such a force expected, and to apply correctly the censure for failure—if there shall be any to be applied-which has bitherto been indiscriminate, being based on some chimerical idea of the general plans. It could not have been expected that the troops under Sigel's command were to form a column to joic Grant in his march upon Richmond, or to form a co-operative movement in any way except by rapid raids upon the enemy's commu-nications, falling back whenever threatened by superior force, which the rebels, from their central position attack at any time, except when general action was immi

If any thing more than this was expected of a force of such dim nsions, operating on a line toward the enemy's base and isolated from the support of our main body, it was an expectation not creditable to the military judgment or common sense of those who entertained it.

Sigel was attacked by Breckinridge with superior force

and driven back Had he fallen upon Crook or Averill, or both combined, they would have met the same fate. These three divisions were a combined operation to destroy com-munications. As the enemy were in force in the valley sufficient to beat either one of them, and perhaps all three if they had been together, one had to be sacrificed for the success of the other two. The success of either detachment was achieved by all, and the discredit of the defeat of ne-if it was a discredit to be beaten by superior forcebelonged equally to all.

Crook and Averill made their raid on the railroads and retreated to West Virginia. Sigel was driven north. The valley was temporarily clear of any threatening movement, and Breckinridge joined Lee with his forces, leaving the protection of the country chiefly to the local militie Sigel was superseded by Hunter, who marched vigor

ously forward and captured Stauaton. He was joined by Crook and Averill, and they marched on Lynchburg. It is probable that but for delay he might have entered that place and held it long enough for destructive purposes. But the very night that he lay before it heavy reinforce-ments from Richmond reached it by railroad. In the mean time he became aware of so heavy a force marching north in the valley that he found it necessary to retreat by way of the Gauley.

Thus the valley was left entirely open to the Potomac

and into Maryland and Virginia, Sigel having but a small force at Martinsburg, which would have been captured if it had not anticipated the march of the enemy's main co-It is generally known-the Secretary of War has taken

care that all should know it—that the Upper Potomac, Maryland, Baltimore, and Washington have been stripped of regular troops to increa e Grant's army on the James, and that their places have been supplied—as far as supplied—with militia and handred day drafted men. Therefore none of the commanders in Maryland, Pennsylvania, or on the Upper Potomac, nor all combined, had a force fit to take the field against an invading column of ten or twenty thousand troops; therefore all denunciation of there

They might, by combining all their raw troops, have had enough to take up strong natural positions and hold them on the defensive by means of entrenchments. But the rebel advance consisted of parties of cavalry, spreading out.over the country, gathering in cattle and other supplies, levying upon the towns, and ravaging and burning. In advance it was belittled by the same headlong censorship into an insignificant raid, and it was imperatively demanded why our imbecile Generals did not pounce upon it and sweet

We know not how far the military authorities at Washington participated in this false diagnosis of this invasion. But no General could withstand this pressure and choose the line of prudent defence. Raw militis and hundred day men, draws from their homes for the temporary holding of fortifications, were harried into the field, never before brigaded, unacquainted with their field officers, and incapable of manœuver, to meet a superior force of veterans from Lee's army. Many of the flower of the young men of Ohio were thus sacrificed, and we know not to whom their friends can more justly charge their blood than to the reckless newspspers who howled it on.

We have not to lears in this fourth year of the war that while the Shenand ah Valley is unguarded by adequate force, the way to Maryland, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, and Washington is open to the enemy. often before to need this repetition to teach us

In these remarks we have no opinion to express on Sigel's capacity as a General. He has a thorough military education. That in our system is held an infallible qualification for generalship. We place no confidence in it. He is thoroughly acquainted with the practical details of an army; but as to his espacity as a general it is not neces

sary for us to express any opinion.

The President appointed him to a command in the valley from a fancied political necessity-to conciliate the Germans, who were supposed to be growing disaffected toward him. We know of no such necessity, and believe that the safety of the country should not be risked for the sake of party trimming. Gen. Halleck believes Sigel utterly incompetent, and refuses to treat him with civility in their official intercourse. It is said that Gen. Grant has the same opinion of Siger's capacity. Under such conditions the appointment ought not to have been made. The an thorities would naturally embrace the first reverse to get rid of him. It is bad policy to have such an occasion desired, when the parties who desire it can do so much to bring it about.

If S gel was a fit man to be appointed, his being driven back by Breckinridge's superior force was no reason for removing him. His removal before the authorities at Washington knew any thing about the force he had met, or the conditions of the fight, or the success of the two deachments which had been attained through his exposure, shows how eagerly they sought the opportunity. But, as we have said, these forces at that time accomplished all that could reasonably be expected of them. Perhaps under Hunter they came somewhat short of it, but not far, Nothing decisive of the campaign could have been reasonably expected of such a force, and the glory or blame of ts result must accrue to a higher responsibility

LOSSES AT THE BATTLE OF MONOCACY.

Dr. Johnson, the Medical Director at Frederick, given the following as the results of the battle of Monocacy:

Killed and left on field..... Wounded and taken to hospital..... Prisoners taken..... 400 REBEL LOSS. 

The above table exhibits the aggregate number of all the casualties at Monocacy bridge. A detailed report of the casualties in the "First Separate Brigade," com manded by Gen. E. B. Tyler, shows the losses of that brigade to have been: killed 1, wounded 27, prisoners 7, missing S1. This return is deficient as respects one regiment, whose medical officer, together with its killed and wounded, fell into the hands of the enemy.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 20 .- A terrible accident occurred this morning at the Blockley Almshouse, caused by the walls of the female Lunatic Asylum, the partition well of which was being undermined by workmen, who were preparing for the introduction of new heaters, and letting down all the floors clear to the roof. The lafe it reliable accounts of the accident say that eighteen insane women were killed and twenty wounded. There were two hondred and twenty-nine inmates of the asylum. The accident occurred at a quarter of six this morning. The building was supported by two immense arches which gave way. The sitting room was filled with children. Sixteen bodies have been already taken out.

The Depot of the Norfolk county railroad, at the Waterford junction of the Providence and Worcester railroad, (R. 1.) was burned early on Wednesday morning with six cars and much freight, including \$50,000 worth of wool.

Locusts are appearing in Wisconsin by the million. They ppeared last in 1848, fifteen years age. Many cattle have bitten to death by them.